

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (New) A method for a base station to adapt data rates for transmission to wireless terminals, comprising:

receiving a plurality of data-rate feedback reports from a group of two or more said terminals, and

selecting transmission data rates in response to at least some said reports at periodic adaptation intervals, wherein:

the base station receives reports from each individual terminal of said group at intervals longer than an adaptation interval;

the reception of reports from said group is spread over time such that reports from different terminals are received in different timeslots; and

in the selecting of transmission data rates, the base station responds to the report from at least one terminal of said group in each adaptation interval by responsively selecting a transmission data rate.

Claim 11 (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the base station receives reports from each individual terminal of said group at intervals of three timeslots.

Claim 12 (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the adaptation interval is one timeslot.

Claim 13 (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the the base station receives reports from each individual terminal of said group at intervals of a multiple number of timeslots, and the reporting times are staggered according to a regular pattern such that the reports from each said individual terminal are received at a fixed timeslot position within the adaptation interval.

Claim 14 (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the data-rate feedback reports from said group are received asynchronously.